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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re : Phillip Fields Hayward
Filed : HEREWITH
International Application No. PCT/EP00/04385
Priority Filing Date : 26 April 2000
FOR : A METHOD FOR INSTALLING A
PROTECTIVE GAITER AROUND A
JOINT
Express Mail No. : EF 374 418 778 US

Lowell, Massachusetts
October 26, 2001

BOX PCT
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-24, and please add new Claims 25-47.

A1 25. A method of installing a gaiter around a joint defined between joint members the method comprising the steps of providing a range of gaiters, in which each end portion of at least one gaiter of the said gaiter range incorporates a respective single annular fitting section or channel, for use with a range of joints of different dimensions, the range of joints being greater than the range of gaiters and at least